

# U.S.A. PLOWING ORGANIZATION

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WEB SITE FOR USAPO: <http://usapo.org>

## 2026 National Plowing Competition Newsletter

Good day plowmen and women. As of this date, 3/1/26, Mike Penas from Minnesota is the acting USAPO President and I, Ray Elsberry from Iowa, am the acting secretary. Both Mike Rhoades and Joel Wagner have stepped down from their offices.

I do not have any meeting notes etc. to share with you at this time but I wanted to assure everyone that the IPA has been busy preparing for the 2026 national matches. We have everything in place and I wanted to get the details out to everyone so you can set up the rest of your summer plans.

The 2026 National Plowing Contest will be held in Cedar Falls, IA at an antique equipment show called Antique Acres. The IPA has held a number of plowing competitions at this show and they have been very good to us. The soil is a decent black type with light sandy mix.

### **Location:**

Antique Acres  
1710 Waverly Road  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
[www.Antiqueacres.org](http://www.Antiqueacres.org)

We only have 30 acres this year so we have to be efficient in our use, practice versus competition. We have determined that there should be enough ground to allow two days of competition for the Vintage Small Plow and Kverneland Classes. If we get more competitors than expected, we may elect to reduce the Vintage Small Plow class to a single day of competition to create more practice and competition plots.

The Kverneland conventional and reversible plots will be regulation width but shortened to 240 ft long, same as the Antique and Open classes.

Here is a quick reminder of what the rule book says about Antique Class equipment. Please take note of these items so you will know if you qualify. Changing the characteristics of the plow by altering or re-manufacturing pieces of the plow in a way or size that are not of factory design is not allowed. If you believe that you are operating on the fringes or do not qualify according to the following rules from the USAPO rule book please move to the Open Class which allows more freedom to be creative.

- Tractor model must be manufactured in or before 1951 and no hydraulic equipment.
- The plow must be mechanical or clutch lifted.
- North American made with all components of similar characteristics.
- Equipped with blacksmith type shares (I believe the intent of this rule means factory design or similar, as they would have been purchased from the manufacturer at the time the plow was manufactured.
- Equipped with regular straight coulters, no disk type.
- Jointers are allowed, coverboards are not.
- Replacement rubber tires are acceptable.
- No limit to number of bottoms.
- Any appliance not original or factory equipment for the plow or tractor are not allowed (maintain antique vintage) except for weights and a manual landing lever.
- Contestants must be able to prove the age and authenticity of their equipment.

We are asking that all national plowmen planning to attend the 2026 matches call their national director and register their intent to compete by July 15<sup>th</sup>. This will allow our Iowa team to layout the plots in the best possible configuration. State Directors, please forward the names of your state plowmen to either myself or Chad Adelmund. Our cell numbers are listed below.

If memory serves, there is a loading dock available on the grounds. I will confirm the unload height early summer and add it to any updates in a summer newsletter.

**Competition Dates:**

Wednesday August 19<sup>th</sup>

Plot layout, mark plots begin to receive/unload plowmen

Thursday August 20<sup>th</sup>

Practice and plowmen's banquet

Friday August 21<sup>st</sup>

Competition, Day 1 (Antiq., Kverneland, Antiq. Sm. Plow)

Saturday August 22<sup>nd</sup>

Competition, Day 2 (Open, Kverneland)

### **Plowmen's Banquet:**

- The USAPO banquet will be held at the plow site.
- Banquet date is August 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM
- Banquet meal will be smoked pork loin, seasoned potatoes, green beans and dinner roll. Beverages will also be provided with the meal.
- Banquet dinner price is \$25 per plate.
- Please call the following IPA board members to confirm your reservations.
  - Brianna Brown 641-485-5067
  - Mike Fitz 641-751-9500
  - Chad Adelmund 641-750-2310
  - Ray Elsberry 641-485-4011

### **Hotel Information:**

Waverly, IA is directly north of the plow site and I believe it will offer the easiest access to and from the plow site with regards to traffic. It's about 10-12 min straight north of Antique Acres via Waverly Road, which runs directly north from the plow site, or via the 4-lane, Hwy 218.

#### **Quality Inn, Waverly**

319-526-1074

404 29<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW

Waverly, IA 50677

#### **Super 8 by Wyndham, Waverly**

319-318-2449

301 13<sup>th</sup> Ave SW

Waverly, IA 50677

#### **Cobblestone Inn & Suites, Waverly**

319-462-8160

208 E. Bremer Ave

Waverly, IA 50677

I tried to find the direct phone numbers for each hotel but they are making it very difficult to identify these numbers online.

That's all I have or now. If any changes arise or new details become available, I'll pass them along in the summer newsletter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of our Iowa representatives listed above. We'll do our best to get you an answer.

Sincerely,

Ray Elsberry

641-485-4011

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